

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye visits storm-hit villages in three townships
Requirements will be provided in cooperation with region in-charge
ministers, national entrepreneurs and departments concerned



NAY PYI TAW, 3 June - Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, accompanied by Chairman of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Prime Minister General Thein Sein, Vice-Chairman of NDPCC Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, senior military officers, Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Swe, members of NDPCC ministers, deputy ministers, the director-general of the Government Office and officials, arrived in Mawlamyinegyun Township by helicopter from Patheingyi yesterday.

At the briefing hall, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt who is closely supervising reconstruction tasks in Mawlamyinegyun reported on the storm-affected villages, relief measures taken for storm victims, accommodation, supply of food and drinking water for the survivors, arrangements for resuming agricultural work and fisheries, delivery of relief items, repair of offices, hospitals and schools by private companies, re-running of rice mills and requirements for rehabilitation and development tasks.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said as relief works have almost completed continued efforts are to be made for reconstruction of storm-hit regions and regional development and improvement of socio-economic life of the local people.

In doing so, tasks for building of roads and bridges, fulfillment of food, clothing and shelter needs and resuming of the livelihoods of storm victims are to be carried out in a speedy and systematic manner, he said.

In the meantime, preventive measures should be taken in the event of natural disaster in the future, he noted.

As regions are different in the livelihoods according to geographical conditions some regions have to depend on agriculture while others have to engage in fisheries. Hence, in rehabilitation of a region one should know its condition and requirements, and only then, will rehabilitation measures be carried out more effectively.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said he made a field trip right down to the respective storm-hit areas. And prompt action is being taken for providing each region with necessary requirements in cooperation with region in-charge ministers, national entrepreneurs and departments concerned, he added.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party inspected clearing of the fallen trees in Mawlamyinegyun, Myoma Market and river bank.

They went to Township People's Hospital where they greeted specialists, doctors and nurses from Yangon General Hospital and Yangon West District General Hospital who are giving treatment to the patients.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party visited the patients undergoing treatment at the hospital and inspected the site chosen for construction of a 100-bed hospital.

They went to Bogale from Mawlamyinegyun by helicopter. At the relief control office, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung reported on loss of lives and property, relief measures, accommodation and food for storm victims, reconstruction of schools, hospitals, dispensaries, arrangements for cultivation of monsoon paddy, operation of rice mills, power supply and participation in rehabilitation tasks in Bogale by private companies. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye then gave instructions.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party went to Township People's Hospital and cordially greeted doctors.

They comforted the patients and inspected the site for construction of a 100-bed hospital. They toured Bogale by car.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party inspected treatment for the storm victims by medical unit at the township gym.

They greeted medical team from India led by Dr Prafull.

At 11.30 am, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party left for Hlinephone Village in Labutta Township.

They cordially greeted the storm victims at the relief camps and doctors, health staff and members of Red Cross Brigade at the dispensary.

They visited Hlinephone Village and inquired the experiences of the storm, food, clothing and shelter needs and education of the children.

They flew to Theikpangongyi Village by helicopter. Vice-Senior General Maung Aye met the villagers and explained arrangements for reconstruction and development of the village.

He inspected repair of affiliated basic education high school in the village. They arrived back in Patheingyi in the afternoon.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye makes arrangements to facilitate rehabilitation tasks



NAY PYI TAW, 3 June- Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye gave necessary instructions to responsible persons including ministers and national entrepreneurs concerning rehabilitation tasks in Mawlamyinegyun and Bogale Townships at Mya Ayeyar meeting hall in Patheingyi yesterday.

In his address, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye said that it was encouraging to witness the concerted efforts made with nationalistic fervour by departmental officials, local people and national entrepreneurs to carry out relief and reconstruction tasks in the storm-hit regions. Giving a helping hand to storm victims so that they can overcome any difficulty reflects strong nationalism and Union Spirit of the nation and the people as well as unity and strength of the nation.

It is Union Spirit as well as the spirit of helping each other that Red Cross members of Kachin State from the far north had come to Kandonkani in the southern Myanmar to provide the storm victims with aid in Ayeyawady Division.

Bearing in mind that reconstruction of storm-stricken regions is an extraordinary task construction work is to be carried out along with upgrading work. In that regard, coordination is indispensable to be able to make arrangements considering specific needs of the respective storm-hit areas.

Arrangements had already been made for one region to help another in times of need.

Like Ayeyawady Division which is the rice bowl of lower Myanmar, a cluster of dams and reservoirs were built in Sagaing Division to turn it into the rice bowl of upper Myanmar for self-sufficiency in rice.

With the emergence of Thapantseik Dam, Sagaing Division has now been able to enjoy the surplus of 100 million baskets of rice every year.

Similarly, steps are being taken to turn Taninthayi Division into an edible oil pot like Magway Division. As arrangements have been made for fulfillment of basic commodity wherever necessary, local people are now enjoying food security.

In conclusion, he spoke of the need for those present to openly discuss matters on effective implementation of the reconstruction tasks in storm-hit regions of Ayeyawady Division as the government has made arrangements for successful realization of the tasks.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye greeted the national entrepreneurs present on the occasion.

Afterwards, officials led by Prime Minister General Thein Sein went on discussing the reconstruction and development measures in detail.

In his address, Central Committee Chairman Prime Minister General Thein Sein said that Vice-Senior General Maung Aye had already clarified relief, reconstruction and development tasks, policy of the government towards preventative and preparedness measures in the event of natural disaster, future work and arrangements.

He continued to say that relief and reconstruction of storm-hit regions had been successfully carried out in a short period of time through the active participation of members of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee, the respective sub-committees, local people and national entrepreneurs.

The government will make arrangements for storm victims to enable them to resume their livelihoods such as agriculture, fisheries and salt industry, and the relevant ministries and officials concerned are to report the requirements in that regard, he noted.

Next, Central Committee Vice-Chairman Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo dealt with reports of the relevant ministries and requirements.

This was followed by a general round of discussions.

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by Central Committee Chairman Prime Minister General Thein Sein.

S'pore medical team donates medicines, medical equipment to MoH

YANGON, 3 June - Singapore Medical Team donated medicines and medical equipment to be used in health care services in storm -hit areas to Ministry of Health today.

Ambassador of Singapore to Myanmar Mr Robert Chua Hian Kong handed over medicines and medical equipment worth US \$ 110,000 to Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo at Yangon General Hospital.

At the donation ceremony, Mr Robert Chua Hian Kong explained the purpose of the donation and Dr Mya Oo presented a certificate of honour to the Singaporean medical team.

Energy Deputy Minister inspects ploughing of farmlands in Kungyangon

YANGON, 3 June - CEC member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay on 29 May supervised the ploughing of farmlands with the help of power tillers by employees of Agricultural Mechanization Department and farmers to grow monsoon paddy at Kamapa Village in Kungyangon Township.

The deputy minister inspected the low-cost housing units constructed by Asia World Co and met with the district, township and village PDC members and officials of Myanmar Agricultural Service at Zartiman Hall in the township. He gave instructions on them to provide paddy strain to farmers and double cropping in the season. A total of 4,000 acres of farmlands have been ploughed and grown paddy.

MRCS donates relief supplies in Kungyangon

YANGON, 3 June - Team led by Myanmar Red Cross Society secretary Dr Hla Pe and executive member Dr Tun Myint accompanied by members of Township Red Cross battalion made donation at Kyakatgonelay, Ahatseik, Theikgon, Seikkanthar, Kyaik Pat and Incok villages in Kungyangon Township on 1 June morning. Donations are worth K 12 million and include 1,000 tarpaulin, one water purifying tablets box, 2,660 packages of dry noodle, 1500 boxes of canned fish , 50 packets of curry , four packages of Ovaltine, 1,000 pairs of slipper, 500 personal goods, 500 emergency goods, five packets of rehydration salt.

Gifts for Myanmar Red Cross Society

YANGON, 3 June- Dagon Kyaw Co Ltd donated four fibre boats worth K 2.45 million to Myanmar Red Cross Society (Head Office) at No 42 Strand Road in Botahtaung Township here today. The society president Professor Dr Tha Hla Shwe and Executive Director Col Khin Maung Hla (Retd) accepted the donations and spoke words of thanks.

The four boats will be used in the health, social and relief works for storm victims.

Double A donates 1 million Baht for victims

YANGON, 3 June - Mr Charnvit Jarusombathi, Double A Senior Executive Vice President, met U Ye Win, Myanmar ambassador to Thailand, at the Myanmar Embassy to donate 1 million Baht worth of aid and other materials to help those hit by Cyclone Nargis. Double A Book Tower in Thailand is set to be the donation center. Collected donation will be distributed to the cyclone-hit regions. The donation will run until 31st May 2008.

Relief supplies continue to arrive at Yangon International Airport

YANGON, 3 June-As the international community has been donating relief supplies to the storm victims, IL-76 aircraft carrying 37 tons of tarpaulins donated by Reltex Relief Supplies Co Ltd of the People's Republic of China, five C-130 aircraft carrying 27.439 tons of mugs, aluminium pans, plastic sheets, tooth brushes, blankets, clothing, mosquito nets, water purifier and accessories, water tanks donated by the USA, 8M-332 aircraft carrying 4.78 tons of clothing donated by Baiyoke Hotel Group, C-130 aircraft carrying 10.98 tons of soft drinks, milk powder, salt, noodles, water purification materials donated by monks ,nuns and Buddhists from Thailand, A-12 aircraft carrying 7.86 tons of tents, plastic sheets, hovercrafts donated by Red Cross Society of Denmark, A-300 aircraft carrying 37.315 tons of plastic sheets donated by Department for International Development (DFID) from Britain, IL-76 aircraft carrying 46 tons of medicines, blankets, tents, water purification materials donated by Ukraine, DC-8 aircraft carrying 36.993 tons of medicines, buckets donated by Swiss-based Doctors Without Borders arrived at Yangon International Airport today.

Likewise, IL-76 aircraft carrying construction materials, life-jackets, tents, weighing 33.794 tons donated by Cambodian-based WFP had arrived at Yangon International Airport yesterday evening.

Relief supplies donated by donors from abroad have been sent to storm-hit regions by vehicle, by helicopter and by vessel immediately.

Cash for orphans in storm-affected regions

YANGON, 3 June-Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun and staff families of the ministry donated K 5.5 million to orphan children in the storm-hit regions at the Fire Services Department in Mayangon Township today.

Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein and employees handed over the cash through Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and officials.

Htoo Trading, Air Bagan conduct memorial service for victims of Bogale Tsp

YANGON, 3 June- Employees of Htoo Trading Co Ltd and Air Bagan Co Ltd yesterday organized a ceremony to gain merits and share merits in memory of victims who died in the storm at Kyunthaya and Kyeingyounggyi villages in Bogale Township.

At the ceremony, Members of the Sangha recited parittas and the employees offered meals to the monks and shared merits gained. They also distributed 3,500 packets of meals to residents in the two villages.

After setting up a base camp in Bogale, Htoo Trading Co Ltd and Air Bagan have carried out the relief and rehabilitation works since 6 May. They donated 1900 bags of rice,

31,000 baskets of paddy strain, 100 power tillers, clothes, rain coats and foods to the victims of the villages of Kyunthaya and Kyeingyounggyi for the second time yesterday. They also transported rice, edible oil, medicine and drinking water by boat to storm-hit villages and gave free medical treatment to the patients. Htoo Trading and Air Bagan have provided relief aids to the storm-hit villages until they return to the normal condition.

Course in Basic Diplomatic Skills concludes

YANGON, 3 June - The Graduation Ceremony of the Certificate Course in Basic Diplomatic Skills No-18/2008 conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was held at Wunzinmin Yazar Hall of the Ministry yesterday, with an address delivered by U Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Also present on the occasion were directors-general of the departments under the Ministry, departmental officials, retired Myanmar Ambassadors, senior diplomats, rectors and professors from Universities and Institutes, responsible officials and lecturers as well as trainees.

Altogether 185 trainees including those interested in international affairs, entrepreneurs dealing with foreign firms, company officials and service personnel attended the 12-week course.

Dent Myanmar Dental and Imaging Centre opened

YANGON, 3 June-The opening of the Dent Myanmar Dental and Imaging Centre took place at the Sedona Hotel here on 1 June.

Among the attendees were Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Vice-President Daw Khin Thet Htay, the rector of University of Dental Medicine (Yangon), the vice-chairman and executives of the Myanmar Dental Association, professors, representatives of medical companies and dentists.

Professor Dr Ba Myint of the Dent Myanmar Dental Centre extended greetings. Professor Dr Swe Swe Win and Dr Moe Thida Htwe gave an account of medical service available at the centre.

The centre donated K 1 million, and Dr Tun Min Latt and Dr Win Min So, K 500,000 to storm-affected dentists through Myanmar Dental Association Vice-Chairman Professor U Pwint Phu.

The international level centre is located on the ground floor in Condo (D), Tekkatho Yeikmon Housing Estate, New University Avenue, Bahan Township (Tel: 01 54657, 546663, 542375 (ex-1155)).